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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1884)

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September 19, 1918.

Temperature 6 a.m. 77
Humidity 93

3 p.m. 78
91

September 19, 1917.

Temperature 6 a.m. 81
Humidity 85

WEATHER FORECAST
CLOUDY.

Barometer 29.82

8051 日五十月八

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1918.

四拜禮 號九十月九英港

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120 PER ANNUM.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

CONTINUED ACTIVITY ON WESTERN FRONT.

AMERICAN AIRMEN HARASS GERMAN RETIREMENT.

French Fight in Knee-deep Water.

London, September 17.
A Belgian communiqué says:—Great artillery activity and patrol fighting is prevailing along the whole front. The former is especially intense towards Nieupoort, Boesinghe and Mercken.

British Admiralty of the Americans.

London, September 16.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a Special Order, congratulates General Pershing on the victory secured in the initial American offensive, saying:—"Convey to all ranks our unbounded admiration and pleasure."

Minor Fighting on British Front.

London, September 17.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—"Minor fighting continued north-west of St. Quentin. We gained ground in the neighbourhood of Holnon."

There were local encounters also on the northern front. We captured a German post westward of La Bassée, taking prisoners, and established new posts north-east of Neuve Chapelle and in the neighbourhood of Ploegstreet. We repulsed raiders eastward of Vierstraet.

A German General's Appeal.

London, September 17.
Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, writing on the evening of the 17th inst., says:—"A captured document signed by General Von Morgen, dated the 10th inst., and addressed to the Fourteenth Reserve Corps near St. Quentin, says:—"Hitherto, owing to military reasons, we have allowed the English to occupy desolate enemy country. Now, however, that you have taken up a strong defensive position, not one foot more of ground is to be given up." The document exhorts the men to defend the homes and families of the Fatherland and adds:—"You are more than a match for the enemy, who only attacks with dash when accompanied by tanks. These we will destroy. I expect every man from General to the most junior private, to do his duty in the imminent decisive battle." Von Morgen was the General who straddled off in a motor-car early on in our attack on August 8."

The St. Mihiel Sector.

London, September 18.
An American communiqué states:—"In the St. Mihiel sector artillery and aviation activity continued. We captured prisoners in patrol encounters."

The American Successes.

London, September 17.
Reuter's correspondent at American Headquarters, writing on the evening of the 16th inst., says:—"The burning of Dommarin and La Chaussee, which are actually in the Hindenburg Line, cannot be accepted as proof of the enemy's intention to withdraw behind the line. Being both under our fire, they were conceivably set on fire thereby, but the towns which are burning along the Moselle, being French towns, are not connected with the enemy defence, and could not have been fired by shells. The Hindenburg Line in this region is not of the formidable nature which it has become further west. In the wide plain between Cotes-de-Meuse, and the Moselle, there is no position of outstanding importance for some distance northwards, once the neck between Vignoulles and Thiaucourt has been passed. Therefore the enemy may find the selection of a satisfactory line in no way easy, unless they are prepared to retire a long way, which is improbable, considering the value of the ground. American airmen distinguished themselves, harassing the enemy's withdrawal at the deepest part of the salient. The Americans accurately forecasted the lines along which the German transport would proceed. These lines converged on a gap between Vignoulles and Thiaucourt, with St. Benoit as centre. The airmen therefore found the transport exactly where they expected, and their attempts to delay it were of the most daring kind, frequently swooping down to within fifty feet of the ground, despite the rain, sweeping lorry after lorry and shattering wagon teams with bombs or machine-guns. A considerable part of the booty taken was due to the work of airmen in blocking the only roads of escape. The tremendous haul of guns, now over two hundred, was largely due to this bottling up of the mouth of the salient."

French Overcome Great Difficulties.

London, September 17.
Writing to-day, Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters says:—"The French are now barely a mile from the highest point of Laffaux Plateau. The German line with a quarry of fortifications was taken and the garrisons killed or captured. In one quarry an entire Battalion was captured and in another a Colonel with his Regimental Staff. The Germans held out in the quarries with machine-guns and a most bloody fight occurred for one these subterranean fortresses on Monkey Mountain, north of Vauxaillon. Finally the garrison was killed almost to a man. Altogether five German Divisions were engaged against the French, including the Fifth Guards and Brandenburgers. The enemy has succeeded in flooding the valleys. The French consequently fought knee-deep in water across the valleys before storming the stone fortresses on the plateau. The enemy resisted with great strength. One French Battalion fought knee-deep for twenty-four hours. The Germans brought up field-guns almost into the first line and fired from ranges of a few hundred yards. The ground is sown with obstacles of every kind. Nevertheless, General Mangin's infantrymen have beaten back the German front from Vauxaillon to the bank of the Aisne."

A German Report.

London, September 16.
A German official wireless message says:—"The enemy between the Ailette and the Aisne on Sunday somewhat extended the point at which he broke through on the previous day and gained a footing in the southern part of Vailly."

Between Cote de Lorraine and the Moselle, vigorous infantry engagements developed before our new positions. The enemy in the evening stood approximately on the line Fresnoe, St. Hilaire, Hamont, Rembercourt and Reppes Forest.

As a reprisal for the bombing of German towns, our squadrons last night dropped twenty-two tons of bombs on Paris."

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

CONTINUED ACTIVITY ON WESTERN FRONT.

Battles in the Air.

London, September 17.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation says:—"There was great aerial activity on the whole of the British front on September 16, despite strong opposition. We took a record number of photographs. Our aeroplanes and balloons reported much damage in hostile battery positions and many explosions and fires were caused by our artillery fire. We dropped twenty-four tons of bombs in the day time, and fifteen tons during the night on aerodromes, railways, and dumps. There was intense day-long fighting, combats occurring at a considerable distance eastward of the lines. We brought down forty-five hostile machines of which seven were downed in one fight by one of our squadrons. We drove down twenty others uncontrollable. Anti-aircraft guns also shot down one hostile machine. Sixteen British machines are missing."

BRITISH AERIAL ATTACK.

Some Splendid Results Obtained.

London, September 18.
The Air Ministry reports:—"On the night of September 15-16, our aeroplanes heavily and repeatedly attacked four enemy aerodromes with excellent results. They started four fires, wrecked three enemy machines on the ground, demolished two hangars, directly hit several other hangars and hit a transport convoy four times."

We bombed railways at Metzablon, causing a fire, and successfully attacked railway junctions at Mainz and docks and sidings at Karlsruhe with good results on both targets. Seventeen direct hits were scored at Karlsruhe, where three and half tons of bombs were dropped. A total of 350 bombs of 16½ tons was dropped. All the machines returned."

More Raids.

London, September 17.
The Air Ministry reports:—"On the afternoon of the 16th inst. we twice attacked aeroplane works and a chemical factory at Mannheim with excellent results. The enemy attacked us over the objective and three British machines are missing."

We attacked the German home defence aerodrome at Haguenau. Bombs were observed on and near the hangars, one of which was set afire. All our machines returned."

On the night of September 16-17 we attacked three aerodromes with bombs and machine-gun fire, securing good results. We dropped bombs all round Treves station. We also heavily attacked Frankfurt station with good effect. The night began calm but later high winds arose. At present seven British machines have not been located."

During the past three days we have dropped sixty tons of bombs."

COTTON SPINNERS ON STRIKE.

Possibility of 300,000 Idle Workers.

London, September 16.
The Lancashire cotton spinners' strike for payment for unemployment, due to restriction of output, has begun. It is feared that to-morrow most of the spinning mills will be at a standstill, and if the strike continues, about 300,000 workers will be idle by the end of next week. Still, it is hoped that this calamity may be averted."

As the result of a private conference of representatives of the spinners and the Control Board at Manchester on Saturday, new proposals will be submitted to the Board of Trade with a view to their consideration by the Premier as soon as he has sufficiently recovered."

FOREIGN TEAS.

An Australian Import Restriction.

London, September 16.
A Melbourne message states that the Commonwealth Minister of Customs announces that future importations of foreign teas into Australia will be limited to twenty per cent. of the total importations during 1917-18. It has been found that the recent removal of the embargo on Java and China teas has operated harshly against India and Ceylon."

A SEPARATE PEACE.

Belgium Rejects Germany's Proposal.

London, September 18.
According to a Paris message, the *Petit Parisien* learns that Belgium, after consultation with the Allies, decided absolutely to reject the German proposal for a separate peace."

THE SIBERIAN CAMPAIGN.

Splendid Captures by the Japanese.

London, September 17.
Reuter's correspondent at Tokyo says the War Office announces that on the 9th inst. the Japanese captured the enemy naval base at Khabarovsk, with seventeen gunboats, four vessels, a wireless station, 120 guns and great quantities of ammunition and other material."

THE ITALIAN ATTACK.

Austrian Story of a Retreat.

London, September 17.
An Austrian wireless official message says:—"Between Brenna and Monte Solarolo, the Italians yesterday morning opened an attack after strong artillery fire. We drove them back in the Brenna Valley and before Col Caspelle."

Bitter fighting developed on Monte Partiki and Solarolo, and on Tasson Ridge, in which the enemy was forced to retreat everywhere."

AMERICA'S CONTRIBUTION.

Another 300,000 Men In Europe.

London, September 17.
The Press Bureau announces:—"The number of American troops embarked for Europe in August was 313,000, of which 180,000 were carried in British ships."

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE SALONICA OFFENSIVE.

Over Four Thousand Prisoners Captured.

London, September 17.
A French Eastern communiqué dated the 16th inst. says:—"The operations begun yesterday were continued to-day with complete success. The breach made on the Dubropolje-Vetrenik Front was widened westward and eastward and now extends over a front of twenty-five kilometres to a depth of seven kilometres."

Westward of Sokol, the Serbians carried the fortified zone between Gradzenitz and Okol and crossed the River at Gradzenitz, throwing back in disorder, on the Rasimby Bridge, enemy units who were caught under the fire of our machine guns."

Eastward of Vetrenik, the Allies carried Chelo and Golobilo massive and the Zbornik defences."

Over 4,000 have at present been taken prisoner, and over thirty guns and considerable other booty captured. The offensive continues."

The Serbian troops fought with splendid moral, endurance, courage, and self-sacrifice, also in repulsing Bulgarian counterattacks."

SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

THE HAN RIVER FLOODED.

Highest for Eight Years.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, September 19.
The Han River is flooded 175 ft above Hankow. Many houses are destroyed. The water has reached the highest level for eight years."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE AUSTRIAN PEACE NOTE.

Proposals Futile in Present Form.

London, Sept. 17.
The Austrian note continues to be a subject of lively discussion, the chief feature of which is the absolute unanimity regarding the futility of the proposals in their present form. The papers fully endorse Mr. Balfour and welcome President Wilson's uncompromising rejection of the proposals. They warn Austria that she never made a greater blunder if she expects to sow dissension among the Allies. Diplomats are of opinion that one of the motives of the note was an attempt to calm the restiveness of Bulgaria and satisfy the Turks, who are showing increasing readiness for some kind of peace. Altogether the note is regarded more as a war manoeuvre than as a peace move."

America's Dignified Reply.

Washington, Sept. 17.
The official reply to the Austro-Hungarian note runs as follows:—"The Government of the United States feels there is only one reply which it can make to the Austro-Hungarian suggestion. It has repeatedly with entire candour stated the terms on which the United States would consider peace and can and will entertain no proposal for a conference upon a matter concerning which it has made its position and purpose so plain."

German Clumsiness.

London, Sept. 16.
The following is an amplification of Mr. Balfour's speech reported yesterday:—"The German exerts when he deals in methods of direct, simple and efficient brutality. When he tries to dress himself in President Wilson's colours or to act the part which he thinks President Wilson would like him to play he is very clumsy because he is a very insincere actor. However he may dress himself the mailed fist always appears. Negotiations can never be effected or be fruitful until those responsible for German policy understand that borrowing and clumsily endeavouring to adopt President Wilson's phrases to their policy at a moment when everywhere they have the power they are violating the fundamental essentials of all President Wilson's teaching is a policy which will never deceive even the simplest minded amongst the Allies. It seems to me almost incredible that anything good can come of these proposals."

An Outspoken Comment.

New York, Sept. 17.
The press unqualifiedly approves President Wilson's emphatic rejection of the Austrian proposal, which was delivered within half an hour after receipt. The "Sun" epitomises the views: "No talk of terms of peace, no negotiations for peace of any kind and least of all for an enduring peace, until there is evidence that we are dealing with the German people and not merely the present rulers of Germany, on whose word nobody can now depend."

A Labour Conference.

London, Sept. 17.
An Inter-Allied Labour Conference has opened at Westminster. Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, United States, Greece and Serbia are represented. Mr. G. H. Bunting, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, presiding, said the conference was called to try to find agreement amongst the Allied labourites. They were not there as peace at any price men or defeatists, but as people who desired an honourable, lasting peace."

Referring to the Austrian note, the Chairman said it was their duty to explore all avenues toward peace."

A Clumsy Trick.

Paris, Sept. 17.
A Havas message says:—"The Austro-German note proposing peace talk is scorned by the Allies and regarded as a clumsy trick to gain time for the Central Empires to reorganize their exhausted armies, hoping also to stir up discord among the Entente nations. Official circles in Washington warn against losing time discussing the proposals and urge striking harder. Mr. Balfour has replied that there are no misunderstandings to clear up. The cynical proposal is an attempt to divide the Allied nations. The launching of a peace offensive was anticipated now that the German armies are in retreat. The offer of peace to Belgium by Germany is hypocrisy. There is no suggestion of reparation to Belgium, which is to become neutral immediately only for safeguarding the Rhine towns. No Belgian is to be influenced by the German dodge. The combination will for peace is emphasized by the air raid on Paris, as a genuine product of Austro-German diplomacy."

(Continued on page 2.)

THE YARN MARKET.

Phenomenal Conditions Prevailing.

Messrs. Polishwalla and Kothwall, in their report dated September 18, state:

As reported in our last circular dated the 9th August our yarn market has remained very strong and phenomenal changes have taken place during this interval of five weeks, which are unprecedented in the entire annals of yarn trade."

There has been continuous advice from India to all foreign holders to reship large quantities of yarn owing to great scarcity and extremely high rates ruling there, and although 4,000 bales are ready to be reshipped, they are unable to secure tonnage."

This most unusual position has greatly affected our market and a big rise of \$15 to \$20 per bale has occurred during this interval, but the business was effected on a very small scale in about 1,350 bales, which is mainly due to absolute unwillingness on the part of sellers to hold on firmly their small stock, which they are so eager to reship to Bombay."

In contrast to this smart rise in lower counts, the values of higher counts, particularly 20s, remain almost stationary, the range being now almost in parity with those of 10s and 12s. This is rather extraordinary, as, in ordinary times, the difference between the higher and lower counts is invariably about \$20."

Owing to continuous rains for several weeks, heavy floods in many Southern Districts have greatly hampered business as traffic with those places had been almost suspended for a long time, hence, clearances had been very small, but have recently improved on account of communication having been restored and floods subsided."

At the close, the tone of our market is steady."

Total sales, 1,825 bales. Bargains in Chinese hands, 8,000 bales."

Arrivals—Steamers from Bombay have brought in 3,000 bales for Hongkong."

Shanghai—Market has kept very strong on account of bullish news from India, but very small transactions have taken place in view of the high values ruling."

Japanese Yarn.—Imports of these spinings have greatly been curtailed owing to increased local demand in Japan, and values have enhanced so much there, that several local holders have repurchased the goods from Chinese dealers at great premiums. Quotations are as follows:—Bales Nagasaki No. 20s at \$273; Bales 3 Horses No. 16s at \$260; Bales Horses No. 20s at \$270; 1,300 Bales Yellow Joes No. 20s at \$256/265; Bales Seton No. 10s at \$245; Seton No. 20s at \$280; Blue Fish No. 20s at \$273."

Raw Cotton.—There is nothing doing in cotton market. Bengal: nominal quotations \$54 to \$64. Chinese: \$55 to \$87 per picul."

Sugar by Parcels Post.

The Hongkong Post Office has been advised from London that packets of sugar not exceeding one pound in weight may still be sent by parcel post to the United Kingdom, and that such packets are admitted free of import licence or customs duty."

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PORTIC JUSTICE.

[Robbers and Menan Captures.

The correspondent of the North China Daily News, writing from Kueiteh, says:-The brigands have moved a little farther away from here in their operations lately. General Chang was sent down with several ying of cavalry and infantry to deal with the situation. He brought his men into Kueiteh and was going to wait until the leading was out before beginning operations. The brigands, however, got so bold and came so near in their kidnapping business that he had no "face" left and finally went out after them. This resulted in a fight in which the soldiers had over 30 casualties and the brigands were driven back to their happy hunting grounds along the Shantung border. Chang Taren is at present out there in the Mamuh district and will probably follow the usual plan of staying there a few weeks and then retiring to leave the brigands in full possession.

Generally speaking, the well-to-do people do not get much sympathy from the poorer classes when their turn comes to be kidnapped and held up for ransom. They never seem to care very much when the poor have to pack their belongings on a barrow and start off in times of famine, nor do they ever seem to desire to develop industries to give work to those who are continually living on the verge of starvation. In fact, as you know, they will take advantage of rice being sold cheap for poor relief to buy up the stocks and sell them at a dearer rate. To my mind such bloodsuckers should be dealt with as severely as the robbers are, but then many of our highest officials would come under the same condemnation.

His Own Measure.
Stories are told us very cheerfully of the picturesque revenge sometimes taken by the brigands on specially skin-dint victims, such as one man who had had a good crop of carrots and when besought for help by the poor would hand out a small carrot, in the same way as the shopkeepers dole out a single cash to a beggar. The result was that when the brigands (probably local ones) captured him for ransom they kept him a couple of days without food and then fed him on a small carrot from time to time until the ransom came.

Another man had a hole pierced through his nose and a string threaded through, on each end of which was suspended a number of cash; for, said the robbers, since you regard your money so much, you may have some where you can see it all the time.

All this goes to show that the Chinese nation as a whole is reaping in blood and misery what it has sown in contempt of the poor and indifference to the suffering. Nor will shooting and head-lopping settle this thing, but the opening up of mines and industries which will give people who would be decent a chance to live decently. There would then be left only a nucleus of brigands who were so from choice and these would not be hard to deal with.

Spanish Influenza.
We are still getting spells of rainy weather here, but the harvests have been good and food is cheap. The kooling has been mostly cut, so the smaller fry among the robbers will soon be hunting their holes for a season. Houses are still very hard to get in the city, for the country folks dare not venture back to their homes yet.

There is an epidemic of some kind of fever which lays its victims out for three or four days with a headache and temperature and is not very pleasant whilst the city is so crowded. Fortunately it does not last long and although some 20 of our Church members have been or are down with it, none seem to have been very seriously ill.

Indian Officers for the Army.
Ten commissions a year for the Regular Army are to be offered to young Indians, said Lord Lillingston in the Lords recently. They are to be granted at Sandhurst, and the scheme will begin in January.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Iron Money in Sweden.
 Iron money, of the nominal value of 265,000 kroner, was struck in Sweden (say Messrs. Samuel Montagu and Co.) to make up for the deficiency of small change and for this purpose 94,078 lb. of iron was required.

U. S. Interest in National Kitchens.
 At the request of the Food Administration of the American Government, Mr. A. A. Mitchell, of the United States Embassy, and Mr. H. Alexander Smith, of Washington, have made an inspection of several National Kitchens in the North of England. Their tour included Doncaster, Hull, Leeds, and Halifax. The King's Seamanship.

During his inspection of No. 1 Bolton Training Wing the King twice gave proof of his practical seamanship. The depot specialises in training for Navy service, and an important part of the course is learning how to recognise a ship at a great distance. In one place are tiny models of ships, exact reproductions of what ships look like from a height of 1,500 feet and a distance of 13½ miles. These are suddenly brought into view and the learners have to spot them. The King joined in the practice and showed himself very skilful. He then went to an ornamental lake on which similar models manoeuvre, while the students watch them from above. Here the King made a valuable practical suggestion, which will probably be acted on.

The Conscientious Objector.
 Dr. J. Rendel Harris spoke on "The conscientious objector" at the Friends' Meeting House, Manchester, recently. There were, he said, some 5,000 men who refused to accept military service; some, say a score, had died under the treatment they had been subjected to; another score had become insane under the treatment. Contrary to every sense of equity, they were tried and re-condemned for what was really the same as that their condemnation was practically a sentence of hard labour for life. The number court-martialled once was 3,771; 623 had been court-martialled twice, 491 three times, 202 four times, while 18 had been five times condemned to periods of imprisonment with hard labour. Conscientious objectors were fighting for the right of self-determination of small groups in great communities. They formed a "contemptible little army" of those who thought freedom the first and greatest thing for which they had to stand, and who were determined to save from Prussianism both the country of their birth and the churches of their adhesion.

President Wilson's Newspapers.
 A Washington correspondent writes to the Times:—Ours to learn through what channels President Wilson gets the news of the day, a newspaper writer recently investigated. He found that the President looks over eight newspapers more or less regularly. They are the Baltimore Sun; Washington Star, New York Post, Times, and World, Springfield (Massachusetts) Republican, the Philadelphia Record, and the Newark (New Jersey) Evening News. Each day the President's private secretary and two assistants clip from many papers, and the clippings deemed of interest to the President are pasted on to sheets of yellow paper, 50 or 40 pages of which are fastened together. Striking cartoons are often cut out for the President's special attention. President Wilson reads the Weekly Edition of the Times regularly. French and Italian journals he knows through translations, and translations from German papers are supplied to him regularly. For intimate information from Europe he depends on Ambassadors, Ministers, and Consuls. Twice every week the Secret Service submits a report to him. The Army and Navy Intelligence Bureaus also report regularly. Individuals—United States citizens and others—who believe themselves possessors of important information are told to put it in writing. A great number of these unofficial memoranda are sent to the White House, and it is said, the really valuable ones always reach the President.

NOTICES.

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GENERAL NEWS.

English Shyness.

Dr. Fort Newton, referring at the City Temple recently to his approaching mission to America, said that as an American he could say a great deal about England and that an Englishman would feel he could not say because his severe shyness would prevent him. "You blessed English people are the poorest advertisers on earth. You tell all your faults and hide what is most worth telling," he observed. In the autumn America would elect her new Congress. It did not matter which of the two great political parties came into power so long as it was thoroughly American and loyal.

Ex-Mayor Fined £100.
 Arthur Charles Lory, estate agent, and formerly Mayor of Southend, was fined £100, and Charles Living, estate agent, £50, at the Old Bailey recently on a charge of having conspired to get for the purpose of obtaining for Living an appointment as collector of taxes. Mr. Lory, it was explained, had been collector of taxes for many years in the Southend district, and the two accused entered into an agreement whereby Living was to pay Lory £200 for the latter's recommendation to the vacancy caused by his resignation. Mr. Justice Lawrence said the offence was of a mischievous character, and if it became a rule would be most insidious. They would have offices bought and sold as it was said they used to be.

Cost of Land Reclamation.
 Sir Richard Wintrey, replying to Major Chapple, states that certain water-logged areas which could be improved by manual labour in cleaning out water-courses have already been dealt with by prisoner or soldier labour in 1917, and it is estimated that from 40,000 to 50,000 acres have already been brought into cultivation or improved by this means. In the case of Rhuddlan Marsh, in Denbighshire, 1,200 acres have been reclaimed since October, 1917, at a cost of 30s. an acre, and in the West Riding an area of 2,750 acres at Tickhill has been

sited at a cost of only 2s. 6d. an acre, the work being started in May, 1917. As regards land reclaimed from the sea, the reclamation of 555 acres at Wingland by German prisoners, begun in June, 1917, has just been completed at a cost of about £1,032. Three hundred and twenty-four acres belong to the Crown, and of this land over 200 acres have been sown with spring corn. The reclamation of a further area of 300 acres of foreshore is being proceeded with.

French War Dogs Work.
 Lady Smith-Dorrien, President of the Blue Cross Fund, gave at the Mansion House recently an account of her visit to the Blue Cross Hospitals in France, and described the ways in which war dogs were employed by the French Army. Major-General Vicomte de la Panouse, Military Attaché to the French Embassy, presided. Lady Smith-Dorrien said that the British Blue Cross was sending every possible comfort, not only for dogs, but for the horses in the British Forces. They had every reason to believe that the Blue Cross Fund had helped to save many hundreds of horses from the sick lines. Every month they spent £800 to £900 on these comforts. A motor ambulance for horses, costing £1,000, had been sent to Salonika. While helping the French horses they were not neglecting our own. They had had nine horse hospitals working in France. Thirty thousand horses had passed through their sulphur bath and been cured of mange. The French had now 10,000 dogs under training. They were employed as sentinels, to guard German prisoners, to carry ammunition and dispatches, to take first aid to the wounded, and to lead blind soldiers. A number of dogs at the front had been mentioned in dispatches. More than 5,000 dogs had been treated during last year, and 4,196 had been returned fit for work. A cheque for £1,000 from Mowley, near Manchester, made up mainly of small subscriptions, was handed to Lady Smith-Dorrien.

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THE GOLF MATCH.



First Golfer (after magnificent drive): What do ye know about that?
 Second Golfer: Well, it's good but I'll tell you what, we'd better play for the usual half this time. I'll have you on for a War Bond ticket, loser pays.
 First Golfer: Right—O! But to make it fair, loser shares if the ticket wins a prize.
 Second Golfer: In any case it is \$2.50 for War Charities and I think we ought to "Pay the Piper" for our pleasures in these times.

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY
 WAR BOND DRAWING

31st December, 1918.

TICKETS ON SALE AT ALL BANKS, HOTELS, CLUBS & STORES.

HUMROD'S

Woods' Great Peppermint Cure

CURE FOR ASTHMA

Constantinople's Plight.
 Says a writer in a home paper: "I learn from an unimpeachable source that Constantinople is practically unrecognisable. All around the Palace Hotel, in the aristocratic Pera quarter, one sees nothing but starving and insect-covered children, who beg during the day and sleep in the streets at night. A cup of coffee at the Pera Palace Hotel costs half a sovereign, a roll five pence, and a bottle of mineral water anything from fifteen to eighteen shillings."

NOTICES.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL
 COMPANY LIMITED.

NOTICE.

IN accordance with the Provisions of the new Articles of Association of the Company, the Board of Directors have this day declared an Interim Dividend for the First Half Year ended 30th June, 1918, of THREE DOLLARS (\$3.) per share.

Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office on and after the 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1918.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 16th to 23rd instant, BOTH DAYS INCLUSIVE.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

J. H. TAGGART,
 Manager.
 Hongkong, 12th September, 1918.

NOTICES.

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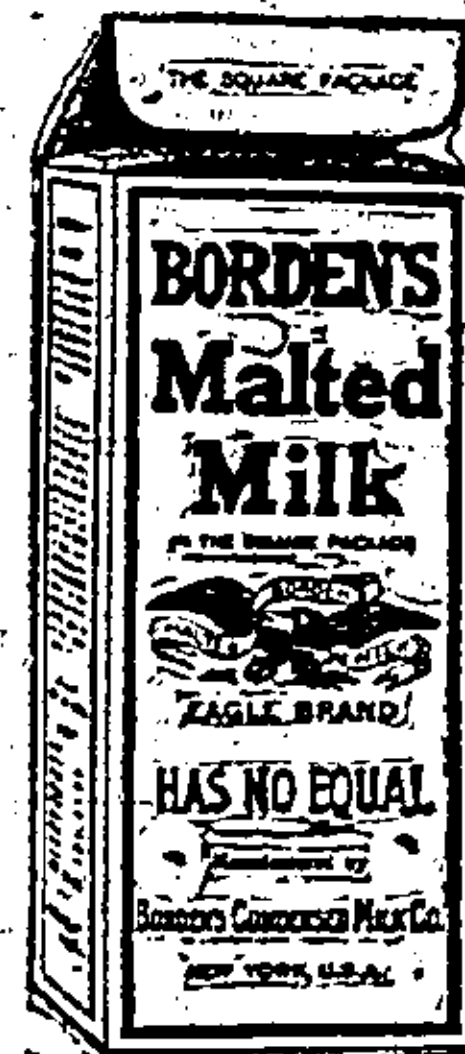
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BORDEN'S MALTED MILK.
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NOTICE.

MOW FUNG & COMPANY
 LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Business heretofore carried on at 10, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong, by FREDERICK HOWELL and FREDERICK CHARLES MOW FUNG in co-partnership under the style of MOW FUNG & CO., has been converted into a Private Limited Company, and will henceforth, and as from the 1st September, 1918, be carried on as before and at the same address under the style of MOW FUNG & COMPANY LIMITED.

All contracts relating to goods or merchandise entered into by the Firm of MOW FUNG & CO., up to and including the 31st August 1918, will be respectively collected and be paid by the said FREDERICK HOWELL and FREDERICK CHARLES MOW FUNG.

The Company will be managed or controlled by a Board of Directors, the first Directors being FREDERICK HOWELL, FREDERICK CHARLES MOW FUNG, and Soe To YUEN.

By Order of the Directors,
 CHOW U-TING,
 Secretary.

Hongkong, 16th September, 1918.

NOTICES.

INSURE your MOTOR CAR or CYCLE against Accident under the COMPREHENSIVE POLICY of the MOTOR UNION INSURANCE CO., LTD.

For Terms and particulars apply to the

UNION TRADING CO.,

Queen's Building,
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THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1918.



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Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

The rates of Subscription to the "Hongkong Telegraph" will be as follows:—Daily issue—\$36 per annum. Weekly issue—\$13 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per annum, proportional. Subscriptions for any period less than one month will be charged as for a full month.

The daily issue is delivered free when the addressee is accessible to messenger. Peak subscribers can have their copies delivered at their residences without any extra charge. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage.

The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is \$1.00 per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents. Weekly, twenty-five cents (for cash only).

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

(Payable in Advance.)

The "Hongkong Telegraph" is now on sale at, and will be delivered to subscribers by, the Dairy Farm Company, Ltd., Shamshing, Canton, who have been appointed our agents there.

By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C. 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Lee House St.

DEATH.

IRVING.—2nd Lieutenant Archibald Denys Irving, R.F.A. eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Irving, on 16th September, of wounds, in France. Straits and F.M.S. papers please copy.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1918.

VOX POPULI.

We have become very accustomed after four years of war to reading the bombastic utterances of the Kaiser and his satellites regarding the glory of the German Empire, the undying bravery of her armies and the ceaseless reiteration that the Entente is doomed. We have learned to regard that sort of thing, at first with contempt, but latterly with a certain doggedness that remains to be seen resolute which is essentially British. It is this spirit of Prussianism which up to now has swayed the peoples of the German Empire and has kept alive for over four years their patriotic fervour. Their leaders have systematically fed them upon spurious victories and big sounding promises, never thinking of, or, if they did, never heeding, the fearful day of reckoning which was bound to come. They have kept from their dupes the achievements of the Allies, and magnified their own so-called victories.

Of course, the enemy have certain successes to fall back on. They have occupied nearly all Belgium and a large part of France, they have over-run Serbia, Montenegro and Rumania; and they have brought about in Russia such a reign of terrorism and death that the whole world looks on aghast. But they must know, and what is more the German masses must know, that supremacy or defeat depends on the West Front, and they are beginning to perceive that all is not well with them. The popular German newspaper, *Berliner Tageblatt*, contains a report of the remarkable proceedings of a Trade Union deputation to Count Hertling on the 12th inst. The report states that the people have become seriously discouraged over recent events, and they feel that they are economically sinking. Food continues to be bad and is dangerously insufficient, while prices are extortionate, and consequently the bodily strength of the workers is declining. The spokesmen of the deputation affirmed that the long promised break-through had failed and that the time was now ripe for a peace by understanding.

This statement, of course, is loaded with significance in itself but what is more significant still is the fact that it is allowed to be published. Not so long ago, it would have been considered tantamount to treason even to make such statements, far less to print them. It only goes to prove that the German people, however much hoodwinked hitherto, are beginning to think for themselves and to regard the world war in its true perspective. They see now that while the Allies are advancing on all the fronts and returning to the fray fresh and enthusiastic, their own armies are dull and spiritless, their morale utterly shattered. It must be with grim foreboding that their Emperor and leaders, political and military, are viewing the situation, for surely their dupes will take a terrible revenge.

The Salonica Front.

Simultaneous with the brilliant advances of the Allies on the Western Front, we learn of a Franco-Serbian offensive at Salonica. They have advanced eight kilometres on a front of over twenty kilometres, despite the difficulties of the ground. It seems that the positions captured have been held and fortified by the Belgians for over two years, and include Veteraik, Dobropolje, and Sokol, which constitute the most important part of the Macedonian front. Over four thousand prisoners have been captured and a large number of guns and masses of material have fallen into the hands of our brave Allies. Mr. Balfour, speaking at a Greek dinner, stated that he considered that this victory is only the prelude to greater triumphs, and that British and Greek troops were about to take part in the campaign. Speaking generally as to all the theatres of war, the prospects of the Allies have never been more cheerful. We shall soon have the help of a big Greek Army and there are bound to be important developments on this front. We are convinced that the Salonica front is far more important than is generally realised, and we shall look forward to more successes from this quarter.

War on German Soil.

General Pau struck what is undoubtedly a popular note in his speech at Sydney when he declared that the punishment of Germany will not be complete till she has been defeated on German soil and been given a taste of the horrors of war. It is just like the Germans to request now that they see a prospect of being driven from France and Belgium, but the Allies will be wise, and just also, if they decide that before hostilities are ceased the war is carried into enemy territory. The Huns have ravaged and disfigured Belgium and France; let them have a good taste of their own medicine. The French have an idea of getting their own back by razing to the ground one German town for every French town destroyed, which, after all, is only what justice demands. But whatever comes of that proposal, it seems more than ever likely that the war will be taken on to German soil before it ends. The Americans are almost over the border already on the Lorraine frontier, as a consequence of the St. Mihiel success, while the anxiety of the Germans to conclude a separate peace with Belgium, and the recent talk of their statement that the Fatherland will soon have to defend itself, show that the Huns perceive the trend of the operations. By all means let the Germans have an actual acquaintance with war in their own territory; then they will have some appreciation of the sufferings they have inflicted on others.

American Enterprise.

Evidence is continually accumulating to show that America intends in the future to devote a deal of her energies towards the securing of bigger trade intercourse with the Far East. In our news columns yesterday we gave some details of the inauguration of the Asia Banking Corporation, which is intended to open branches in all parts of China; it being realised that trade cannot be done on a large scale without adequate financial facilities. This is only one instance of America's growing interest in the Orient, but an even more important development than this is the fact that recently the U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce created a Far Eastern Division for the express purpose of stimulating trade with this part of the world. In connection with this move, information regarding the needs of the Far Eastern countries, their methods of doing business, their systems of credit and what they can send to the States in exchange for American goods are to be gathered for the benefit of manufacturers and exporters. This new Division has secured the first appropriation ever made by Congress for the specific purpose of promoting Far Eastern trade relations. With facts like these before us, it is obvious that America will be a big competitor in the East after the war, and that is a factor which our Government, financiers, manufacturers and exporters cannot afford to ignore.

DAY BY DAY.

BY RESISTING OUR PASSIONS WE FIND TRUE PEACE OF HEART.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the fourth anniversary of the first German bombardment of Rheims Cathedral.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand today was 3s. 3/3/16d.

The Health Return.

The only case of communicable disease notified yesterday was a fatal occurrence of enteric fever, the victim being a Chinese.

Roll of Honour.

Much sympathy will be felt for Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Irving in the sad loss they have sustained by the loss of their eldest son, 2nd Lieut. A.D. Irving, R.F.A. News has been received that he died of wounds in France on the 16th inst.

A Lame Chinese Robbed.

A Chinese was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J.B. Wood, with stealing \$5.67 from another Chinese, Inspector P.O'Sullivan prosecutor, and said that complainant was lame. He was a licensed hawk selling medicine at New Street. This morning he was accosted by a man who asked him for medicine. He took out his money box and placed it on the roadside near him, and whilst he was doing so the defendant and another man snatched it and ran away. His little son chased them and they were eventually arrested by a Chinese constable. Corroborative evidence was given and his Worship adjourned the case till to-morrow at 10 a.m.

Troublesome Amahs.

Two amahs of respectable appearance appeared before Mr. E.D.C. Wolfe this morning charged with creating a disturbance in Wanchai Road. Inspector Sim stated that the defendants were employed by the M.Y. San factory and one of them was dismissed recently. On Wednesday night they met in Wanchai Road and commenced assaulting each other. They were brought into the Police Station by a constable and followed by scores of young girls. He thought that a peace bond would suit the case. Defendants were bound over to sums of \$100 to keep their good behaviour for six months.

Bought or Stolen?

A Chinese was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J.B. Wood, with stealing a pair of shoes valued at \$3 from an Indian on board a ship. Defendant pleaded not guilty, and said he had bought the shoes from another man. If he had stolen them he would not be wearing them on board the ship, as there were a lot of people about. The complainant, in giving evidence, said that a European Sergeant arrested the defendant. As the Sergeant was not in Court, his Worship remanded the case till Saturday morning. Another Chinese was charged with stealing a pair of black boots valued at \$6, the property of an Indian, on board a steamer. Defendant pleaded not guilty and said he bought the boots from another Chinese for \$4. Evidence was then given by the complainant, who identified the boots as his. The man who was alleged to have sold the shoes, in giving evidence, denied that he sold the shoes to the defendant. His Worship remanded the case till Saturday at 10 a.m.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Orders for Infantry Battalion issued to-day by Major H.A. Morgan state:—

"B" Company.—Friday, 20th September.—The parade on the Polo Ground for Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Platoons is cancelled. No. 7 Platoon will parade at Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. T.E.T. Dress. Drill order with practice and dummies.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting.

Mr. R.M. Dyer (Vice-President) occupied the chair at the annual general meeting of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society, held at the City Hall last evening. Those also present included Messrs A.G. Gordon, T.F. Hough, A.O. Lang, W. Nicholson, R. Sutherland, J. Reid, D. Macdonald and J.M. Gordon (Acting Hon. Secretary) as well as many members.

After the minutes of previous meetings had been read, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen, Your President, Mr. Anton, having left the Colony, it falls on me to occupy the chair on this occasion. The report and accounts for the past year having been in your possession for the past week I will, with your kind permission, take them as read. The period under review has been one of much greater activity, I think I may say, than any other in the history of the Society, the energy of the members having been in a large measure devoted to the excellent cause of raising money for War Charities. The figures before you to-night show that our efforts have met with a considerable measure of success and I take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to all those who took part, particularly to the ladies, whose assistance was invaluable. We have received many letters of thanks from the various institutions which have benefited thereby, the perusal of which makes one realise the good work which is being done to alleviate the sufferings of our wounded sailors and soldiers. Last month, as you are aware, at a general meeting of the Society, a War Bond Drawing under our auspices was initiated. This drawing is to be kept open till the end of 1918 and if the full amount is subscribed it will result in a gain to War Charities of \$100,000. Might I suggest to all members that it is their bounden duty to invest as freely as they are able in this enterprise and get all their friends to do likewise. By so doing they are helping to bear the burdens of our fellow countrymen who have suffered in this great fight for liberty. Before formally proposing the adoption of the reports and accounts I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions members may like to put to me.

There were no questions, and the chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Walker, in seconding the motion, which was later adopted said they must all thank the President, Vice-President and officials for the work they had done during the past year. As the Chairman had said there had been more activity during the past year and they could see this by looking at the accounts. They would also like to convey their thanks to the ladies for the trouble they had taken in supporting St. Andrew's Society, collecting funds and so forth. He noticed that their worthy officials had preserved a little money in hand so they were not quite bankrupt and had something to go on in the future.

Election of Officers.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, Mr. Gordon moving that Mr. Dyer be appointed President.

In seconding, Mr. Macdonald said they all knew the great amount of work Mr. Dyer had done since he became a member of the Society. He was untiring in his energy at all times and he assisted in any way the work of the Society. For the past year he had carried out the duties of President owing to Mr. Anton's leaving the Colony. In honouring Mr. Dyer by electing him President they were also doing only justice to the Society. He asked them to elect Mr. Dyer by acclamation.

There was an enthusiastic response, and Mr. Dyer, in returning thanks, said he thought the office of the highest honour a Scotman could hold and he appreciated it very much.

On the motion of Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Lang, Mr. Sutherland was unanimously elected Vice-President. Mr. Sutherland said he joined the Society in Shanghai 22 years ago

CHINESE EXCLUSION.

Stricter Enforcement of Philippines Law.

Owing to alleged frequent use of subterfuges by persons seeking to gain entrance to the Philippines and in order especially to enforce more strictly the Chinese exclusion laws, rules, and regulations, which, it is understood, are often violated, the following administrative order, approved by the Secretary of Finance, was promulgated yesterday by Collector Vicente Aldanes of the Bureau of Customs, says the *Manila Daily Bulletin* of Sept. 10.

"Native men, women, and other persons who appear before boards of special inquiry to give testimony in support of the claim of an alleged native-born immigrant, either as fathers, mothers, or witnesses, shall furnish prior to the hearing of the case, six unmounted photographs of themselves, 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches in size, which shall be kept in a separate file at each port of entry. No witness who has not complied with the foregoing requirement shall be permitted to appear and testify before boards of special inquiry. There shall be indicated on the back of each photograph the name and age of the owner, the place and date of birth, and present address.

"Collectors of customs at ports of entry are hereby directed to forward to the insular collector of customs and to collectors of customs at other ports, one copy of each photograph furnished to them in accordance with the foregoing regulation. A separate blank book of sufficient size shall be kept for pasting thereon these photographs and a complete alphabetical index shall be placed on the front pages of the said book, showing the names of the owners of the photographs and the number of the page on which said photograph is affixed.

"Philippine customs and immigration officers shall give due publicity and enforcement of the terms of this order."

Mountains of Potash.

Two entire mountains which contain potash deposits have been uncovered near Visalia, California. Experts say that the mines will last ten years with extensive mining operations. This is the first discovery of potash in commercial quantities in Central California.

this month and he had taken a very active part in the work of the Society both here and in Shanghai. They could rely on him to give their President any assistance required.

Mr. M.A. Murray was chosen Hon. Treasurer, on the proposition of Mr. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Nicholson.

The Chairman stated that Mr. Henderson did not wish to stand again as Hon. Secretary and Mr. Gordon, the Acting Hon. Secretary, did not wish to take the post. He therefore proposed Mr. Peter Todd.

Mr. G.M. Young seconded and the motion was carried.

The following Committee was elected:—D. Forsyth, Messrs W. Nicholson, A.O. Lang, J. Reid and G.M. Young.

"Heather Day."

With regard to "Heather Day," the Chairman said it was suggested that it should be celebrated in the same way as last year. As the day fell on Saturday it was proposed that the Heather Day should be held on Friday morning, with a fair in the afternoon and evening, the fair being continued on Saturday evening. He invited suggestions, but as none were forthcoming formally moved the above programme.

Mr. T.F. Hough seconded and the motion was carried, Mr. Dyer adding that the proceeds would be allocated to hospitals.

It was suggested by a member that as the day fell on the 29th, everyone should be paid on the 28th, while another suggestion was that as a treat for the ladies the President and Vice President should appear in kilts. (Laughter.)

Mr. Sutherland said his family kilts was at home and he would not be able to get it out in time. (Laughter.) A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

The Duchess of Rutland, who has flattered to make sketches of donors to the fund of her Red Cross hospital at Arlington Street, takes rank as one of the artists of the day. Silver point is her specialty, and she has numbered among her sitters many leading public men women, including the late Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour. The duchess is also an accomplished sculptor, and among family busts executed by her was one of Lord Haddo, her eldest son, who died in childhood. It was a pathetic study, and Cecil Rhodes, on examining it, said that nothing had ever given him such a sense of suffering.

Farmer Heartboy, a bluff, cheery, good-natured old fellow, was on his first visit to London. He had never before left his beloved, sleepy countryside, "Eb, but this ere Lannon is a big place!" he muttered to himself, as he gazed his way past the houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey and on to Buckingham Palace. There his roving attention was taken by the sight of a pair of sentries. He stood for some minutes with a gradually deepening frown on his red, jolly face, watching the smart, khaki-clad figures as they repeatedly walked up to each other and then turned about without speaking a word. At last, unable to control himself any longer, Farmer Heartboy strode up to the sentries and laying a hand on each man's shoulder as they came together again, he said in his bluff, kindly way: "Come, lads, can't ye make it up?"—*Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph*.

Some red cedars in the Rocky Mountain region are 1,000 years old. Not far behind them in longevity come western larch and Alpine larch, specimens of which have been known to reach the ripe old age of 700 years. Douglas fir is able to grow through an exceptionally wide range of conditions, for it is found from sea level to 11,000 feet above. Mountain hemlock grows from sea level to 9,000 feet above, while Alpine larch finds its limit at 7,800 feet, says the *New York Evening Post*. These are random facts selected from "Miscellaneous Conifers of the Rocky Mountain Region," published by the United States Department of Agriculture. Distinguishing characteristics, forest habits, and geographic distribution of the larches, hemlocks, false-hemlocks, incense cedars, western red cedar, and yew that grow naturally within the Rocky Mountain region are discussed in the bulletin. Many of these species are important timber trees, and some of them are veritable giants of the forest.

Some of the Chinese dealers in Shanghai were much perturbed recently for a short time by a gigantic but very silly canard set flying by local Germans. To go back a little, the German community in Shanghai have been much depressed of late by the brilliant encirclement of Allied victories and their immense captures of guns and prisoners, now running into thousands and hundreds of thousands; and at the close of last week they called a meeting to discuss the situation. To the average mind it would not seem that they could do much; but the Boche mind works in tortuous ways. Whether the canard was actually hatched at this meeting, we do not pretend to say, but some of the leading Chinese dealers came to ask their British friends if it were really true that the Germans had invented aeroplanes which dropped floods of liquid fire and that these had already flown over all the Allied armies. It took very little trouble to convince the Chinese of the utter absurdity of such a rumour, the fact of course being that scarcely one German aeroplane gets over the Allied lines for twenty that penetrate deeply behind the German front. But the time and trouble wasted on this useless deception are significant. The Chinese might as well understand first as last that nothing German says is to be credited.

SERIOUS RIOTING IN JAPAN.

Strikers Shot by Troops.

The disturbances among the coal-miners in Kyushu recently reported have now become general, and a serious situation has developed, says the Japan Chronicle.

Over 300 miners at the Ochi colliery in Saga prefecture struck work, and presented a series of demands, including an increase of wages by 50 per cent. This demand was rejected by the management on the ground that an increase of 20 per cent had just been granted. Some of the other demands were rejected and the attitude of the management enraged the strikers, who started to make trouble, and were joined by those of their comrades who had been less recalcitrant.

The news of the violent outbreaks at the Kajima colliery, not far away, encouraged them to commit various outrages, but the arrival of troops who had been detailed to the Kajima colliery had a temporarily pacifying effect. At 11 p.m., however, disturbances again broke out with renewed vigour, and the mob came into collision with the troops, who fired several rounds of blank cartridge, which somewhat cowed the rioters, who retired.

They again re-assembled to the number of over 2,000 at 1 a.m. and defied the military and police. Finding that blank cartridge had now no effect, the troops were ordered to load with ball, and the next volley killed three and wounded one of the rioters. Although the mob then dispersed the situation remains grave, and more troops were sent to the mine, which is now guarded by three companies.

Remarkable Incident.

At Kishima colliery in the same prefecture a curious situation arose. It appears that during the disturbances the mob, consisting chiefly of miners from No. 1 shaft, did considerable damage to the buildings and property at No. 2 shaft. This offended the miners employed in this shaft, and they decided to have revenge on their comrades by doing an equivalent amount of damage at the No. 1 shaft. A "dare-to-die" party was formed, and a plan for setting the buildings at No. 1 shaft on fire was about to be carried out when the troops and police interfered, and the "revenge" was prevented.

At the Miyazawa colliery, worked by Mitsui and Company, there was also considerable excitement on the 29th ultimo. Over 300 miners demanded an increase of wages by 30 per cent., but were asked to wait a few days for a definite reply. The miners got impatient and showed signs of making trouble, whereupon the police force was strongly reinforced in anticipation of trouble, while a number of gendarmes arrived to assist in keeping order.

50 per cent. Increase Demanded.

At the Taku colliery, in Saga prefecture, which is under the management of the Yasukawa family, the management announced on the 27th ultimo an increase of miners' wages by 25 per cent., in view of the outbreak of disturbances at other collieries. This precautionary measure, however, did not give entire satisfaction to the miners, who demanded an increase of 50 per cent. Fearing a serious development of the situation, Mr. Nakajima, who is in charge of the mine, consented to an increase of 35 per cent., acting on his own authority. The delegates, satisfied with this concession, retired, but the miners gradually became dubious of the validity of the promise given by Mr. Nakajima without authority from the owner of the mine, and some 300 men raided the offices, causing serious damage to the building.

The police soon arrived on the scene, and Mr. Nakajima assured the rioters that he would keep his promise. The mob finally dispersed without committing any further excesses.

From the Maigahama, Yoshitomi, and Roshitani collieries news of "unsettled" conditions has been received.

A WORD TO ONE WOMAN.

An Example to Follow.

If you are the woman to whom this is addressed, you will recognise yourself in the following description. The message and the offer are for you, be you woman or girl.

This woman is tired; She never has all the abounding energy which she craves in others. She has cold feet; they keep her awake. In the morning she is loth to get up. Sleep has not refreshed her. Her appetite is poor; and she often suffers in more ways than anyone realises. She would sometimes take a day in bed if she could; occasionally she is obliged to. Her system is debilitated, and she sees no prospect of better health.

She need not endure this misery. Thousands of women know what relief from pain and an outlook of ill health, and what new life to every part of the system Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people give women and girls. They have felt the new blood which these pills send coursing through their veins, and the new health tingling in their systems. If you recognise yourself in the above description, start a course of Dr. Williams' pink pills, and join the ranks of the women they have helped.

A reporter has interviewed the wife of an instructor on one of His Majesty's warships, Mrs. Elizabeth Parkins, who resides at 90, Glendower Road, Pounds, Plymouth. In the course of conversation she told a tale worth noting. "Several years ago," said Mrs. Parkins, "I suffered from a severe illness."

"For seven months I was under medical care, feeling weaker and weaker every day. I could not eat or sleep, while my limbs ached so fearfully that I couldn't bear to move them."

"I also had fainting fits, going off at the least exertion."

"I tried everything that it was possible to try," continued Mrs. Parkins, "but nothing seemed any good. One day I picked up a paper and in it read about Dr. Williams' pink pills. I decided to try them and began a course. After taking one bottle I noticed that my breathing was better; also I could enjoy food."

"Gradually I began to get stronger. Day by day my health improved, and in a short time I had recovered sufficiently to make a journey to the north of England."

"I persevered steadily with the pills while away, and when I returned in six months to Devonport my friends did not recognise me. I was a new woman, and better in health than I had ever been since I was a girl. I owe my present good health, if not my life, to Dr. Williams' pink pills."

"You cannot do better, if your health is low, than to start a course of Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people without delay. These pills are stocked by chemists, and are also obtainable from the China Office of the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 95 Esplanade Road, Shanghai, \$1.50 for a bottle, \$8 for 6 bottles, post free."

Free.—There is much useful information in the little handbook, "Plain Talks," offered free to lady readers who send a postcard request for a copy to the above address.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:—

Consular Call.

The Portuguese Consul General and Vice Consul on the Shamshui, along with the Consul General in Hongkong, have made an official call on the Tachun. It is reported that important matters were discussed.

Subscription Scheme Abolished. Chan King-ming, the Commander-in-Chief of the eastern front, on receiving a notification from the Military Government that they would supply the necessary military expenses, has ordered all the "Subscription Persuading Bureau" to be abolished.

Scarcity of Fuel.

In view of the dearth of wood fuel, which costs \$1 per picul at present, and also as the stocks will be exhausted in a few days, the Authority has last despatched a number of armed launches with soldiers to proceed to the North and West Rivers to convey the fuel junk.

COMPANY MEETING.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company Ltd., was held to-day for the purposes of putting before the meeting the regulations contained in the printed document submitted to the meeting and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof and the same are hereby approved and that such regulations be and they are hereby adopted as the Articles of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all the existing Articles thereof.

Those present were:—Messrs. D. Lendale, (Chairman), H. P. White and A. O. Lang (Directors), H. W. Loker (Solicitor to the Company), Mr. B. Sutherland (Secretary) and the following shareholders:—Messrs. E. F. Acock, K. De O. Longmire, Chan Wing, Oa Wong, O Tang-yang, Feng Hun, Chan Shik-u, R. M. Austin, Ho Lu-shang, Li Yuen-kan, Li Yaw-lam, Oa Chan, Lo Mac-hing, Ho Leung, Chien Sic-man, H. Ruttonjee, Ho Kam-long, Ho Shi-wa, N. MacIntyre, R. Sutherland, L. N. Leefe, A. B. Stewart, P. Tod, Lo Cheung-ip, Lo Ma-pau, F. O. Hall, N. L. H. Bailton, Ho Kai, M. K. Lo, Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, P. C. Potts, B. MacDougall, S. E. De Luz, Lo Cheung-shui, L. E. Rmedios, Ho Kwong, Ho Wing, A. M. da Silva, G. B. Layton, A. O. Davidson, E. M. Raymond, Geo. F. Lammett, E. Abraham, and G. M. Shaw.

After the Secretary had read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—"The object with which this meeting has been called is to adopt the new Articles of Association, a copy of which was sent to each shareholder some days ago. As very little change has been made in the Articles of Association since the Company was incorporated in 1881 you can readily understand the necessity for this step. There have been many amendments to Company law during recent years, and as the Board of this Company now sit in Hongkong instead of in London we have been advised by our solicitors that our proper course is to replace our old Articles of Association by these new Articles which they have drafted. Your Directors have therefore taken this opportunity of introducing a few alterations into the new Articles of Association which we think will be of benefit to the shareholders individually and the Company as a whole. Attention has been drawn to these changes in the circular letter sent to all shareholders and I think it is only necessary for me to refer to them very briefly. Power is taken to issue share warrants to bearer which I feel sure will be appreciated by shareholders and greatly facilitate the transfer of shares on the various markets in which dealings take place. The complicated system of voting at shareholders meetings which exists under the old Articles of Association has been done away with and the principle of one vote for one share has been established, a much simpler and more equitable arrangement. I do not think that it would be in the interests of the Company that any change in the management should be brought about without due consideration. The new Articles therefore require a special resolution" to deal with the matter. The stipulation as regards contracts between the General Managers or any of the Directors and the Company is the ordinary one common to many other Companies and is framed to facilitate the transaction of the Company's business. I should, perhaps, explain a feature of the proposed Articles as regards the Directors which you may have noticed.

You are aware that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Limited, are the Permanent General Managers of the Company. It is considered desirable that a member of their firm should always be a member of the Directorate and thereby directly share in the responsibility of the Directors for the management of the Company's affairs. The new Articles therefore provide that the person for the time being in charge of the business of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Limited, in Hongkong shall be a Permanent Director of the Company. As Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Limited, have necessarily at all times a large holding of the shares of the Company, and as any person in charge for the time being of that Company's business in Hongkong is necessarily a member of that Company and interested in such holding, it is not thought necessary that he should possess an independent share qualification as a Permanent Director since his occupation of his post may, at any time, be of a temporary nature. You will agree, I think that the interest he possesses in the firm of the General Managers and in the shares of the Company held by his firm constitute an amply sufficient interest in the Company. I do not think that there are any other points to which I need refer, but I shall be happy to answer any questions which shareholders may wish to ask. I will now propose the resolution.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. H. P. White, put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

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Children must have it—adults should have it

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The resolution was seconded by Mr. H. P. White, put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

A New Anaesthetic.

According to the Swedish press, a Malmö dentist has invented a new local anæsthetic, "Albomin," which, it is claimed, possesses all the advantages of "Novokain," without its defects. A number of Swedish dentists have used it and found it ideal for few operations. This preparation has also been used for surgical purposes and found satisfactory, and in the case of animals has proved more effective and much safer than cocaine.

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LONDON OR LIVERPOOL VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID & MARSEILLES. *Kashima Maru T. 12,500 {THURS., 19th Sept., at 11 a.m.

MELBOURNE VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID & MARSEILLES. *Katori Maru T. 12,500 {SUN., 20th Oct., at 11 a.m.

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BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID & MARSEILLES. *Katori Maru T. 12,500 {SUN., 20th Oct., at 11 a.m.

CALCUTTA VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID & MARSEILLES. *Kashima Maru T. 12,500 {THURS., 19th Sept., at 11 a.m.

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WEIHAIWEI & TIENSIN Kueichow 23rd Sept at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI. Sinkiang 24th Sept at 4 p.m.

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Nias San Fco, Jap. in port 25th Sept. Java

Tijmanoeek Chingwantao 30th Sept. 1st Oct. Java

Tijiwong Kobe & Moji 25th Sept. 27th Oct. Macassar

Tijikini Amoy 25th Sept. 29th Oct. Batavia

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MANILA. Loongsang Fri. 20th Sept. at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI via Swatow-Taisang Sun. 22nd Sept. at d'light.

SHANGHAI. Wosang Tues. 24th Sept. at d'light.

HAIPHONG. Taksang Wed. 25th Sept. at 7 a.m.

MANILA. Yuensang Fri. 27th Sept. at 3 p.m.

SANDAKAN. Mausang Thurs. 1st Oct. at noon.

CALCUTTA LINE.—This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war, but at present a monthly service is maintained with Calcutta by the s.s. "KWAISANG" and "WITA" calling at Singapore and Penang. The former vessel has excellent passenger accommodation, is fitted with Electric Light and Fans, and carries a fully qualified surgeon.

SINGAPORE LINE.—The s.s. "VAN WAERWICK" leaves for Singapore approximately every fortnight. This vessel has excellent passenger accommodation for first class passengers, and is fitted with Electric Light and Fans, and carries a fully qualified surgeon.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every few days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes direct, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai. Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Western Ports.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Friday.

HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at 2 o'clock when direct.

BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up-to-date accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kadal, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Lahad Dato. TIENSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Weihaiwei and Chiao.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Fukagawa Shipbuilding Yard.
The Fukagawa Shipbuilding Yard has decided to increase its capital from ¥501,000 to ¥1,500,000. Of 20,000 new shares, 5,000 shares will be offered for public subscription.Metallic Coatings for Ships.
A process by which metallic coatings necessary to protect the hulls of wooden and concrete vessels from the effects of sea water may be applied at small cost is being tried out by the U.S. Shipping Board. It is proved successful it will obviate the necessity of covering with copper sheathing the hulls of wooden ships below the water-line, and will solve the question of the effect of salt water on concrete vessels.Order for 12 Ships.
The Todd Shipyards Corporation, of 15, Whitehall Street, announced recently that it had received an order from the Emergency Fleet Corporation to build for the United States Government twelve freight steamships, each with a cargo-carrying capacity of 7,500 tons. These ships will be built by the Dry Dock & Construction Corporation at Tacoma, Wash., a subsidiary of the corporation in Whitehall Street. The company announced, also, that the Government has agreed to enlarge the yards, in order to expedite the building of the ships. They will be built as rapidly as possible at the yard's where other ships are now under construction.Italy's Deficiency of Tonnage.
In a paper on the "Industrial Position of Italy," by Professor B. Attolico, C.B., and Dr. F. Giannini, read before the Royal Statistical Society recently, the following relating to the Italian Mercantile Marine shows Italy's comparative weakness from the point of view of tonnage.—The shipbuilding industry has developed considerably in Italy, apart from any German influence, and with an individuality of technique. It succeeded not only in fully providing for the needs of the Italian Navy, but also in building, before and during the war, some Naval units for the Allies, and in supplying the Italian Mercantile Marine with its best ships. It is true that the Italian Mercantile Marine, notwithstanding this was, before the war, and is especially now, with a total loss of one-third of its effectives, absolutely insufficient for our needs, due before the war and still more at the present time, to the formidable requirements of munitions, and to the inability of our metallurgical industry to supply all the necessary material. The deficiency of tonnage is undoubtedly one of the weakest points of all our economic organism and one of the greatest problems for after the war. In 1913 Italy possessed 43 tons of tonnage per thousand inhabitants, whilst Spain possessed 44, France 49, the United States 53, Germany 68, Greece 179, Great Britain 425, and Norway 824. Before the war, the Italian Mercantile Marine was sufficient only for one-fourth of our traffic. It amounted, in fact, to 1,800,000 tons of gross tonnage, so that of the 24 million tons of goods to be transported annually to Italy, only 5½ million were carried in our own ships. Moreover 60 per cent. of our ships were obsolete. Now that the war has caused the loss of one-third of our shipping, taking also into account the new construction, the proportion of traffic carried on Italian steamers is still further diminished. The war, unfortunately, found Italian shipbuilding in the course of its development. It is true that in 1913 two-thirds of our Mercantile Marine had British hulls and British and German engines, but in that year, the output of the Italian yards was 47,733 tons of shipping, a quantity in reality not large, but considerable when one recalls that in the previous five years the annual average was only 23,500 tons. The importation has also considerably increased, reaching, in 1913, 178,000 tons, from 80,000 in 1911, and 99,000 in 1912. The construction of marine engines, which were previously imported from abroad, was already successfully commenced in the yards of Ansaldo, Tosi, and Savoia. The war, however, arrested a great part of the work in our forty yards, which has since been only partially resumed, and this, notwithstanding the fact that many of such yards as those of Ansaldo, Orlando, Odero, Fiat, San Giorgio, Pattison, are first class, and although the Italian industry has an excellent technique of its own, and also labour remarkable for its ingenuity, endurance, and perseverance. At this moment the Italian yards are not working to their full extent, simply because they lack material.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

British Line Slightly Advanced.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: On the southern portion of the front our patrols have brought in a few prisoners. We slightly advanced our line in the neighbourhood of Floegastert and eastward of Ypres. Improving weather on the 15th marked an increase in aviation activity. We encountered many hostile machines on the German side of the line and in many combats destroyed twenty-nine and drove down seven machines uncontrollable. We brought down a large enemy bomber after dark. Sixteen British machines are missing, including two night fliers. We successfully and heavily bombed four enemy aerodromes, one in the day-time and three at night-time. In the past twenty-four hours we dropped thirty tons of bombs.

More Progress.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: We progressed on Monday in the direction of Levegnier, north-westward of Saint Quentin and also slightly improved our position north-westward of Hulluch and north-eastward of Neuve Chapelle.

French Attacks Continue.

A French communiqué says: During the day the French continued their attacks north-east and east of Nancy. Despite resistance we advanced a kilometre on a front of four kilometres, capturing six hundred men and two 47 guns. Our aviators were most active on the 15th, blinding the enemy observations. Sixteen German balloons were burnt and twelve aeroplanes crashed. Big stations and roads behind the enemy lines were heavily bombed. Big fires occurred and much damage was done.

Subterranean Passages Captured.

Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, writing on the 16th, says: On the plateau east of Laffaux and Angardien, on Boisson-Mabouge road, and Combe laun, near Joux, and advanced one kilometre on a front of four kilometres, capturing several positions in the valley separating Nancy from the plateau at Joux, with numerous prisoners and machine-guns. Despite machine-guns and artillery and sweeping vigorous counter-attacks the French maintained themselves in the captured positions. The chief feature of the day's fighting was the capture of numerous subterranean passages dug under the plateau in which the Germans put up a desperate and furious defence and lost very heavily.

A German Claim.

A wireless German official message says: We recaptured the eastern fringe of the height eastward of Vauxaillon. The enemy eastward of Laffaux pressed us back slightly. We repulsed the enemy's partial attacks against Haumont and north-eastward of Laffaux.

Germans Burning Towns.

Reuter's correspondent at American Headquarters reports: Evidence is accumulating that the enemy intends withdrawing behind the Hindenburg line in Lorraine if further pressed. It is burning towns along the Moselle likely to fall into our hands, including Dommarin and Louches, both within the Hindenburg line. The Germans arranged for Austrian troops to bear the brunt of the attack in the very lungs of the salient east of St. Mihiel and ordered them to hold us back until the Germans were withdrawn. The Austrians consequently suffered heaviest, especially in prisoners. The entire artillery of the Thirty-first German Division was captured.

A French communiqué report: North of the Aisne both armies were active. We raided west of Maisons-de-Champagne and took prisoners. Between St. Hilaire-le-Grand and Mont-sans-nom, also north of Rheims we repulsed enemy raids.

Lack of German Assault Troops.

Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters reports to-day: During the past twenty-four hours 131 prisoners were taken. There is plenty of evidence that the enemy is anticipating further concerted attacks at various places. A captured order points out that the Allies must now be expected to strike heavy blows. It bewails the lack of assault troops as rendering any prospect of successful counter-attack or effective resistance impossible. Recent prisoners state that every effort has been made to suppress all news of the American success at St. Mihiel, where the most alarming rumours prevail. The general impression seems to be that the American victory has been so overwhelming that the German Army Command does not dare admit the fact.

Dominating Chemin des Dames.

A Havas message says: The new progress of General Mangin gives him a dominating position opposite Chemin-des-Dames, which can be enfiladed.

THE SALONICA OFFENSIVE.

A Serbian communiqué issued on the evening of the 16th says: Our offensive continues completely successfully. The front pierced is now over twenty kilometres. We have advanced over eight kilometres hitherto and taken over three thousand prisoners and twenty-four guns. A Jugo-Slav division reached Kozjak, the most important position in this region.

BOLSHEVISTS DEFEATED.

A Petrograd message dated 14th inst. reports: The "Pravda" states that a battle occurred on the Archangel front between the Bolsheviks and Franco-British and American forces, resulting in the Bolsheviks fleeing in panic. A number of Bolshevik officers deserted to the British.

GERMANS MUST TASTE HORRORS OF WAR.

General Pau, head of the French Mission at present in Australia, in a speech declared amidst tremendous applause that the punishment of Germany would not be complete till Germany was defeated on German soil and had tasted the horrors of the war she wrought.

PARIS AIR RAID CASUALTIES.

Six were killed and fifteen injured in the air raid on 18th inst.

ADMIRAL MAYO IN ENGLAND.

Admiral Mayo, Commander of the United States Atlantic fleet, has arrived in England to inspect the United States Naval activities in Europe.

THE SILVER MARKET.

Silver is quiet.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

Trials Resumed This Morning.

The Criminal Sessions were resumed at the Supreme Court this morning.

Robbery with Violence.

Before the Puisne Judge, Lam Kai and Lo Shing were indicted on a charge of committing robbery with violence on Chan Mou Kan on August 27, at 92a, Wanchai Road.

The first prisoner pleaded "Guilty" and the second "Not guilty."

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted and said prisoner had pleaded not guilty to aiding and abetting in robbery with violence. The laws of the Colony were so framed that anyone aiding and abetting was liable in the same degree as the principal. On August 27, a small girl living at the house left on her way to school about 12.30. When she reached the first floor she was set upon by the first prisoner, who had pleaded guilty, and two gold bangles were snatched from her wrist. To prevent her crying out, prisoner put his hands round her throat. In connection with the second prisoner, he was seen loitering about the house all that morning. At the Police Court he admitted that he was there but said the first prisoner was a friend of his and he had been asked to meet him there that morning for the purpose of interviewing another man. While there he heard cries of "Robbery" and walked away. He did not snatch anything.

The first prisoner, who had four previous convictions against him, was sent to prison for five years and ordered ten strokes of the "cat" and the second was sent to prison for eighteen months.

A Chinese Soldier Indicted.

Before the Chief Justice, Lit Mak, alias Lit Hung, alias Nip Hung, a soldier, was charged with detaining a boy named Che Mak-wing with intent to procure ransom on April 20, at 416, Shanghai Street.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin, O.B.E., with whom was Mr. Leo Longicatto, appeared for the Crown.

The following jury was called: Messrs. J. G. P. Foulds, L. L. Remedios, W. Lyle, V. Gonzales, R. Packham, K. D. Mestry and B. J. H. Botelho.

Opening the case, Mr. Jenkin said prisoner was charged with kidnapping a small boy on April 20, from Yau-mat, and the offence was one which the law regarded with considerable sternness, for if prisoner were found guilty the Court had power to sentence him to 14 years imprisonment. The story of the case was simple. On April 20, at 416, Shanghai Street there was a Joe-stick seller's shop, at which worked the father of this boy. His mother also lived there and with the father witnessed the actual taking away of this child.

The prisoner was also residing at this shop and had been there for about ten days. He had also lived at the shop in the previous year, when he had acted as cook and then as a seller of Joe-sticks. He then disappeared and returned on the 10th or 12th of April this year, continuing to live there for the ensuing ten days. On the day in question, the parents saw the prisoner take the boy out, having invited him to drink tea. No-one thought anything of it at the time, but the boy had never been seen again. The important point in this was that the defence was a total denial. Prisoner denied that he was in the Colony on this date. About the middle of May, a man named Chan Yau, who was apparently an accomplice or agent of the prisoner, turned up at the shop and at that time the parents received certain letters purporting to come from the prisoner. In consequence of these letters, the mother of the child went to Macao, accompanied by one of the shop employees. There she saw the man Chan Yau, who took them to the defendant, and it was intimated during the interview that they could have the child back for \$180. The woman did not have the money with her, so returned to

MARINE COURT.

A Batch of Cases.

Un Fook was charged by P. S. Bond at the Marine Court this morning, before Commander C. W. Beckwith, with unlawfully being on board the Chin-hua without the permission of the master or officer in charge, on the 17th instant. Sergt. Bond said he was on duty in the Harbour when he went aboard the s.s. Chin-hua where he found the defendant gambling with a crowd of others. He had warned this man many times against going on board ships, as he had a bad influence on the cooks and crews. He then arrested the defendant. Defendant pleaded guilty and said he went there to find his friend. His Worship sentenced him to one month's hard labour.

The mistresses of three boats were charged with unlawfully lying alongside a public landing place (not being engaged in taking on board or landing passengers or cargo) so as to obstruct the free access of other vessels thereto, at Aberdeen on the 17th instant. Sergt. Eerner prosecuted. Defendants pleaded guilty, and his Worship fined them \$5 each, and warned them that they must not be alongside unless taking or discharging cargo or passengers.

The mistresses of nine boats were charged by Sergt. Eerner with unlawfully lying alongside a public landing place at Aberdeen on the 17th instant and with unlawfully committing a breach of the conditions of their licences by failing to keep the licence on board the boat for which it was issued. Defendants pleaded not guilty. After evidence had been given, His Worship fined them \$7 each or 15 days' hard labour.

The mistresses of eight boats were charged by Sergt. Eerner with unlawfully making fast to the ferry launch Li Choy and with failing to keep their licences on the boat. After evidence had been given, his Worship fined them \$10 or one month's hard labour on the first charge and \$2 or seven days' hard labour on the second charge.

Hongkong, later proceeding again to Macao with her husband, Chan Yau, and an uncle of the boy, taking the money with her. They had another interview with the prisoner and the money was paid over, prisoner receiving \$50 and Chan Yau \$150, on the promise that the boy would be returned on the following morning. The two men also borrowed their visitors' umbrellas and shoes, as well as the boy and Chan Yau, had never been seen again. The prisoner was arrested in Macao and handed over to the Hongkong Police.

Prisoner was sent to prison for 10 years and was ordered to receive 24 strokes of the birch. His Lordship, addressing prisoner, said that he would give him a month to assist the Police in finding the child. If he was successful the birching would be cancelled and the sentence reduced.

Harbouring a Girl.

Mak Kam was charged with harbouring a girl under 21 years of age.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty. Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted and said under the present law it was a serious offence to harbour a girl under 21 without the consent of her parents or guardian. The girl in this case was only 14 years of age and used to visit the prisoner at his office. She asked him to make her his wife. Prisoner said he had tried to persuade her to return to her parents but she did not do so and in answer to her entreaties he said he would look after her. He rented a cubicle in Kara Street, where he and the girl lived, as man and wife. Prisoner was a friend of the girl's family and repeatedly said he would look after her. The jury, after considering the facts for some time, returned a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation for the mercy of the Court.

His Lordship sentenced prisoner to goal for 18 months.

U.S. RAILWAY SERVICES.

No Personal Discomfort.

The local office of the China Mail Steamship Company sends us a copy of a letter received by its San Francisco Office from the Railroad Officials in America regarding the passenger service now being rendered on the American Railways in the course of their operation under the United States Railway Administration. This corrects an impression, which has been very widely current, that railway travel in America is now attended with a large amount of "personal discomfort." We give the text of the letter, as no doubt the public in Hongkong will be glad to have this definite statement of the position before them for their information in case any of them are contemplating a trip across the American continent:—

"We are informed that reports are current in the Orient that the railroad service from San Francisco to New York and other points on the Atlantic Seaboard has been disrupted or seriously disarranged, resulting in much inconvenience to travelers. For instance, we are informed statements have been made that it takes 12 days to make the trip from San Francisco to New York; that regular sleeping car service and dining car service has been discontinued and otherwise that traveling arrangements have been rendered inconvenient and generally unsatisfactory."

"As you know such reports are untrue, and that the changes made by the United States Railroad Administration have been simply in the nature of more economical operation of trains by eliminating some features that in these days can well be done without and also by reducing some train service that under existing conditions is deemed unnecessary. These changes have had little or but a few hours effect on the time required for the transcontinental journey, and both dining car and through sleeping car service for overland passengers are practically as before."

"We recently forwarded to your representatives in the Orient a supply of the last issue of Southern Pacific Time Table folders, which correctly state the train service and time schedules now in effect, and I would be glad if you will advise all your Trans-Pacific agents to the effect that the transcontinental railroads in the United States are not only giving good service, but that those who desire to or are required to travel can do so with comfort."

AMERICAN CIVIL SERVANTS.

Salary Increased.

The New York Evening Post says:—

Approximately 15,000 out of the total 21,000 civil service employees in the various 170 State departments, bureaus, and institutions on July 1 automatically became entitled to the 10 per cent. salary increase to be continued for the duration of the war. Mr. E. M. Travis, State Controller, reported recently. This additional compensation, the Controller explained, is to be paid for the first time on July 15, and is made in response to a special appropriation of \$1,000,000 available for that purpose.

Under the new law, only those employees having an annual salary of less than \$1,500 for whom no special extra compensation has previously been allowed exceeding this 10 per cent. increase, are entitled to this extra compensation. All civilian employees who have been called into the Federal military service are entitled to it, as are those employed and paid by counties of a brigade (army employees) or judicial district (court stenographers, etc.) or and insurance or banking corporation (special examiners) or reimbursed to the State by the Federal Government. Officials whose duties require only a portion of their time or whose services are needed for brief periods, as well as those who receive only part of their compensation from the State, are not entitled to the benefit.

But the Civil of many men who have lived in the open will probably be towards the land in England or the Dominions. Here is the Royal Colonial

OUR OFFICERS.

What We are Doing for Them.

It is an ironic fact that while we continue to destroy our thoughts should be on rebuilding; yet it is right that it should be so, that peace may, better than war, find us prepared to face perils less great but as poignant. It is well that plans should be in hand to demobilize our five million army, that may reach six or seven millions before the war is done, but it would be a pity if we ignored a problem because less men are involved in it; every man who serves in this war holds a mortgage on his country. Such a problem is represented by our officers, some 200,000, most of whom, broken or fit, will need to resume or create careers; the officers cannot be dealt with as easily as the privates, because they have gained a social status which they must maintain, a status which causes many to set upon their services a price higher than their qualifications warrant. Well, there is only one thing to do—to train them so as to raise those qualifications.

The officer problem is fortunately being approached from several sides: The State, represented in this case by the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Pensions, fully recognises the need to find work for officers and to train those who need such help. At Gresham House the Officers' University and Technical Classes have set up a strong appointments board, linked with 18 appointments boards formed by the Universities, with the India Office and various employers. There is more than a prospect of employment for the discharged officer through this organisation: during the last few weeks one branch alone received from employers 1,100 applications for his services. Thus the work done at Gresham House appears to be of the utmost value.

The Training Scheme.

Much more interesting is the training side of their scheme, for it proposes to do such justice as it can, namely it will not make new careers, or pave the way for men who merely desire change, but it will attempt to replace where he was the young man whom the war took away. If he is unfit he can be trained at a university or technical school, return to active service if his health improves, pursue his career if he is eventually discharged. As for the discharged officer, his pension can be raised to the maximum, and his training fees can in certain cases be paid: this means that he can be maintained, finish the studies he broke off, and have a reasonable chance of ending up as an engineer, an accountant, &c. All this appears just, and is, I believe, developing. At present several hundreds of young wounded officers are being subjected to brief but intensive cultivation, and are being trained notably in chemistry, agriculture and commerce; among those who have already earned credit in Second Lieutenant Olynes (son of the new Food Controller), who has taken at Cambridge part of his B.Sc. Among the discharged are many who suffer from shell-shock or lung trouble; these mainly go on the land, where a year and common intelligence should qualify them to work their own farms at home or abroad.

As for young officers who wish to enter commerce or industry, the way is being smoothed by the Ex-Officers' Employment Bureau, controlled by a powerful council under the chairmanship of Lord St. Davids, and on which figure a number of shipowners, bankers, railway directors, etc. The organisation proposes to place one or more candidates in each firm, to give them their chance; over a hundred firms have joined the scheme, and it is enough to say that they include Messrs. Baring Bros., the London and North-Western Railway, the P. and O., and Messrs. Rothschild, to show that here is indeed a developing opportunity for a number of young soldiers.

Going on the Land.

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THE JUNK ASSAULT CASE.

Further Evidence of the Affair.

At the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J. B. Wood, the case was continued in which a Chinese, named Wong Yau, was charged with assault with intent to rob. Inspector Gordon prosecuted.

The second woman who was assaulted gave evidence and said she went to sleep at about 9 p.m. She was not sure where she saw Wong Yau on the night in question, as she was unconscious. She heard no shots being fired. She did not then see Ah Po (who died in hospital) and had not seen him since.

Wong Chiu, in giving evidence, said that he had no regular employment. He was now employed on a junk. He was there as a visitor and he helped the master of the junk. On the night of the occurrence he went to sleep at about 9 p.m. There were three other persons, including the defendant. The hatch was partly closed. He woke up because the defendant and Ah Po made him do so, sometime after 10 o'clock. There were no lights when he woke up. Ah Po spoke first and the defendant joined him. Ah Po told him that his mistress had money. He was asked to join in and get a share of the money. He would not take any share. The defendant and the deceased then went on deck. He woke up Ah Hung. The defendant went up on deck first. The defendant had nothing in his hands but Ah Po had a hatchet. He took two coils of rope with the intention of closing the hatch. He heard the mistress crying "Save Life!" He pushed open the hatch and came up. He carried a pole, which he got from inside the fore cabin. He went on deck towards the stern and then to a cabin, which was closed, so he opened it. After he had opened the door the mistress rushed out, and Ah Po rushed out too by the same door. He struck Ah Po with the pole. He could not say how many times he hit Ah Po. He still had the hatchet in his hands. Ah Po tried to hit him, but could not do so. He did not knock down Ah Po but injured him. The defendant rushed out from another door, near the water-tank. It was the cabin of the mistress's daughter. He struck the defendant with the pole, as he was running away. Being dark he could not say where he hit the defendant. He hit defendant many times. He swung a knife, but he managed to dodge it with the result that he bent the chopper. The defendant and the deceased then ran towards the bow. Ah Chin ran up from the hold below and was carrying a glass bottle also in iron bar. He (witness) was carrying the pole. The police approached the junk and the defendant jumped into the harbour.

Institute, which is proposing to large landowners that they should take one or two young officers as pupils for anything between three and 12 months at a premium of £3 to £10 (so as to make it clear that this is no charity). They would be used and treated as labourers, paid, say, 15s. a week, and thoroughly taught mixed farming and dairy work, finishing up at an agricultural college for a theoretical course. By this means it is hoped to turn men without capital into farmers who, with the help of the development board instructors, can take their chance in the new rural England.

Thus, in several directions the officer problem is being approached, and it is well that effort should not be confined to a single channel. Much more will be needed, for it would be a national shame if we contented ourselves with giving the wounded officer a pension of £50 to £100 a year. (Up to captain the maximum is £175). I suspect that we shall have to accept the principle, to be ready to accept that the war has changed minds and that we must pay the cost; we must be ready to take the ex-soldier, train him and maintain him, to take the grown man and train him afresh, changing him nothing for all this, and fully recognizing that the Flindits which grew in his enlistment can be broken only by all the material help the country can give him. It is

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